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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF
CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT



The

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR 1957

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1957

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF CRICKLADE & WOOTTON BASSETT

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1957. In view of the widespread interest in the quantitative aspects of water supplies I have enlisted the help of Mr. Grindley, the Engineer and Surveyor and he has provided a supplementary report on the supply situation during the year.

It will be noted that there were 10 infant deaths for the second year in succession. On the other hand the total number of deaths at all ages and from all causes shows a substantial drop.

During the first half of the year there were a large number of measles cases and in the autumn a large number of people were affected by Asian type influenza. This latter illness was particularly noticeable in those of school leaving and apprentice age. It will also be seen that there were 20 notifications of suspected food poisoning. These applied to separate individuals or families and did not constitute a big outbreak. Apart from these illnesses there was no outbreak of serious infectious disease during 1957.

The number of new cases of tuberculosis was 10 for the second year in succession. This is a low level for the district.

Poliomyleitis immunisation was carried out under arrangements made by the County Health Department, but this does not lessen the importance of also ensuring that a high proportion of members of the community have also been immunised against diphtheria and vaccinated against smallpox. In this connection it should be pointed out that Lyneham Airfield is the port of entry for patients evacuated to the United Kingdom by air from many parts of the world.

In the environmental field, Mr. James and the Public Health Inspectors are to be congratulated on their efforts in raising the standards of food premises. The 20 notifications of food poisoning does not detract from the credit which is due to them. During May, 1957, they arranged a film show on food hygiene in Wootton Bassett and this show was well attended by members of the food trade. During the year some disquiet was felt that the Schools Meals Service might be lagging behind the private trader in the matter of serving and washing-up after school meals. It is hoped that the disparity will be eliminated.

Attention must again be drawn to the difficulties encountered in ensuring a safe and satisfactory method of disposing of collected refuse. The frequency of collections does credit to the rural district, but the handicap imposed by the inability to obtain soil for covering purposes during 1957, was an embarrassment to the Chief Public Health Inspector.

I draw attention to fluoride levels in the drinking water of the district in the hope that one day the recommended level will be reached in all supplies.

Mr. James has been most generous in the way he has given me the benefit of his knowledge and experience in the various aspects of environmental work. The Public Health Inspectors have all devoted a considerable amount of time to routine enquiries and investigations connected with the follow-up of infectious disease notifications.

I am indebted to all the officers of the Council for the readiness to assist whenever asked and also wish to record my thanks to the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and Members of the Council for their support.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. B. KERSHAW,
Medical Officer of Health.

CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1957-8

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

HERBERT JOHN EVELEIGH

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

ALFRED JOB WOOLFORD

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL:

W. J. HOSIER

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

All the Members of the Council

CHAIRMAN:

G. G. LLOYD

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE

All the Members of the Council

CHAIRMAN:

HERBERT JOHN EVELEIGH

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF AS AT
31st December, 1957**

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. B. KERSHAW, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health Highworth Rural District Council, Assistant County and School Medical Officer, Wilts. County Council).

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

C. E. JAMES, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods, M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

T. L. COX, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Smoke Inspector.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

S. MORELAND, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Cert. Smoke Inspector.

STUDENT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

G. C. DUNFORD

RODENT OPERATOR:

W. H. BUCKLAND

CLERICAL STAFF:

MISS M. SIMPKINS

MISS W. JONES

(Services shared with Highworth Rural District Council and Wilts. County Council).

COUNCIL OFFICES:

Manor House,
Wootton Bassett.
Wilts.

TELEPHONE—

Wootton Bassett 458

OFFICE OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

Highworth R.D.C. Offices,
17, Bath Road,
Swindon, Wilts.

TELEPHONE—Swindon 4847/8/9

(House—Wroughton 231)

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District .....	.....	.....	.....	45,911 acres
Number of Parishes .....	.....	.....	.....	14
Estimated Population (including Service personnel) .....	.....	.....	.....	16,690
Number of inhabited houses (permanent) .....	.....	.....	.....	4,639
Rateable Value as at 1st April 1957 .....	.....	.....	.....	£146,742
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .....	.....	.....	.....	£600

Population: The estimated population shows an increase of 90 compared with 1956.

Number of inhabited houses: The figure of 4639 shows an increase of 86 compared with the previous year.

New houses erected in 1957:

By Local Authority .....	.....	.....	58
By Private Enterprise .....	.....	.....	38

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:

<i>Births</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	157	154	311
Illegitimate	10	7	17
Total number of live births	167	161	328

Live birth-rate per 1000 population (corrected) .....	.....	.....	20.0
Live birth-rate for England and Wales .....	.....	.....	16.1
Comparability factor for the District .....	.....	.....	1.02

Still Births:

<i>Births</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	5	2	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total number of still births	5	2	7

Deaths:

Deaths from all causes in the area (Male 71, Female 58)	Total	129
Death rate per 1,000 population (corrected)	.....	9.26
Death rate for England and Wales	.....	11.5
Comparability factor	.....	1.20

Infant Mortality:

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:

<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	7	3	10
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total number of deaths	7	3	10

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age:

<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	6	3	9
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total number of deaths	6	3	9

Infant Death Rates:

(Number of infant deaths under 1 year of age per 1,000							
live births) ..... .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30.4
Infant death rate for England and Wales	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23.0

INFANT DEATHS

Month	Age	Sex	Parish	Cause	Place
January	1 week	Male	Cricklade	Intestinal obstruction	Radcliffe Infirmary
January	12 hrs.	Male	Broad Town	Birth injury	Mat. Hospital
February	45 mins.	Male	Hook	Prematurity (28 wks.)	Mat. Hospital
February	15 mins.	Female	Leigh	Rhesus	Mat. Hospital
May	11 hrs.	Female	Wootton Bassett	Incompatibility	Mat. Hospital
Sept.	1 mth.	Male	Cricklade	Birth Injury	St. Margarets Hospital
Oct.	12 hrs.	Female	Clyffe Pypard	Pneumonia	Mat. Hospital
October	2 days	Male	Purton	Prematurity	Mat. Hospital
Nov.	15 hrs.	Male	Wootton Bassett	Birth injury	St. Margarets Hospital
Dec.	2 wks.	Male	Latton	Congenital Abnormality	St. Margarets Hospital
				Pneumonia	Hospital

CAUSES OF DEATH (All Ages)

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis of Lungs	2	1
Tuberculosis (other)	1	2
Malignant Disease of Stomach	5	5
Malignant Disease of Lung	3	3
Malignant Disease of Breast	1	1
Other Malignant Disease	3	3
Leukaemia	1	1
Lesions of Blood Vessels of Nervous System	5	17

Coronary Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	5
High Blood Pressure with Heart Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	—
Other Heart Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2
Other Circulatory Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2
Influenza	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1
Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	1
Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	1
Other Respiratory Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1
Nephritis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1
Congenital Malformation	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	15
Motor Vehicle Accidents	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
All Other Accidents	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	—
Total all Causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	58
				—	—	—

Deaths: Some comparative Figures:

Year	1955	1956	1957
Deaths	125	162	129
Lung Cancer	3	4	5
Coronary Disease	16	25	23
Cancer (all forms)	18	27	18
Lesions of Blood Vessels of Nervous System	26	24	22

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease:

		1955	1956	1957
Scarlet Fever	.....	8	11	9
Whooping Cough	.....	34	29	70
Diphtheria	.....	—	—	—
Measles	.....	248	73	273
Pneumonia	.....	4	10	9
Mingococcal Infection	.....	1	1	—
Dysentery	.....	1	5	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	.....	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	1	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	.....	—	—	—
Erysipelas	.....	1	1	2
Malaria	.....	2	—	—
Poliomyelitis	.....	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	.....	52	7	20
Undulant Fever	.....	—	—	—

In addition to the cases notified by statute, acknowledgement is due to the family doctors who have kindly let the Public Health Department know of other cases which may be of importance from the point of view of public health.

DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES: NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

TUBERCULOSIS New Cases

Year	New Cases			No. of Cases
1957	10
1956	10
1955	16
1954	12
1953	32
1952	15

During 1957, 7 new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs occurred amongst residents of the district.

During the same period 8 known persons with tuberculosis took up residence in the district.

At the end of 1957 there were 100 persons in the district who were under some form of medical supervision for tuberculosis. Of these, were patients in whom the lungs were known to have been affected.

Of persons dying during the year tuberculosis was the cause of death in four cases.

HOUSING OF TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS

During 1957, 2 families were issued with Certificate No. 2 by the Chest Physician.

Certificates are classified as follows:—

Certificate No. 1. Sputum positive cases where re-housing is considered urgent for prevention of spread of infection.

Certificate No. 2. Where better housing would be desirable in order to improve and maintain the patient's health.

Certificate No. 3. Where better housing is beneficial but not urgent.

IMMUNISATION

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation during 1957

Age Group	Under 1	1	2 3 4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
Primary imms. completed during 1957	150	43	18	35	—	246
Dip Wh/c.	126	33	11	7	—	177
Reinf. inj. administered during 1957	—	—	16	90	5	111
Dip Wh/c.	—	—	13	13	1	27
Total immunised Child population at 31/12/57	Pre 1.1.53	.	—	325	825	1150
Post 1.1.53	48	140	190 175 200	1007	365	2125

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Age Group	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over
Vaccinations	142	7	8	7	6
Re-vaccinations	—	—	4	8	21

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the figures in the above tables. Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough and diphtheria is carried out by family doctors and also at the County Council Welfare Centres. Reinforcement injections are also given periodically at schools. Vaccination against smallpox is carried out by family doctors.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47, Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of Care and Attention.

In no case was it found necessary to take proceedings under this Section. An increasing number of elderly persons is referred to the department from year to year. It is a matter of policy to make maximum use of existing services, statutory and voluntary, and for as long as possible enable elderly persons to live in their own homes.

OTHER HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

Laboratory Facilities

Swindon Area Pathological Laboratory of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board caters for the needs of the district.

Hospital Facilities

These are the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

The main general hospitals are situated at Stratton-St-Margaret and Swindon, which also provide accommodation for maternity cases in a separate institution.

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to one or other of the Swindon hospitals by arrangement with the hospital staff.

The nearest smallpox hospital is at Reading.

Cases under the National Assistance Act, 1948, are admitted to Elm Court, Stratton-St.-Margaret.

Other Facilities

Arrangements for the following services operating in the district are made by the County Council.

Care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children.
Domiciliary midwifery.

Home nursing.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Ambulances and ambulance cars.

Domestic helps.

Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act
for the prevention of illness; care and after-care, health
education.

Mental health service.

WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWERAGE IN THE DISTRICT

(Report by the Engineer and Surveyor to whom acknowledgement is due).

WATER

The water situation during the year continued to cause anxiety. The pumping capacity at Ashton Keynes boreholes is insufficient to meet demands from all consumers. This coupled with inadequate reservoir capacity, brought about a condition in June, when, after a burst on the 10in. rising main and a short period of electrical failure at the Pumping Station, the reservoir became empty on the morning of the 1st July. The consumption of the large users had to be temporarily shut down and water taken for some time through an emergency line from Swindon Corporation mains to feed the northern part of the area. A loud speaker car was commissioned to tour the district requesting users to economise. At the same time an advertisement was issued prohibiting the use of hose pipes and other similar appliances for watering gardens etc.

The overall position was aggravated by the normally good yield from the Broad Town well dropping to a level lower than has ever been known. As a result it was necessary to feed Broad Town and users en route to Wootton Bassett from the Ashton Keynes supply. The Clyffe Pypard yield was also very low, and the normal area of supply had to be reinforced from Ashton Keynes. Under all these conditions, it took several months to build up the reservoir at Flaxlands to a level necessary to remove anxiety.

Approval was received in January to invite tenders for the installation of additional pumping plant at Ashton Keynes boreholes and for duplicating the existing rising main, in part as far as Pavenhill, Purton and using temporarily the 6in. diameter Purton feeder main to reach Flaxlands reservoir. Tenders were invited for this work in July and an approved tender accepted. The contract was signed on 17th February, 1958. Work commenced early in 1958 and is proceeding now.

The inadequacy of the 6in. diameter pipe feeding Wootton Bassett and the whole of the southern part of the area has been known for a long time and with extensive developments by the United Dairies and the Air Ministry at Lyneham, coupled with private and the Council's own development at Wootton Bassett, a rather serious situation has arisen. Application was made during the year for permission to go to tender for laying a new 9in. reinforcing main from Flaxlands reservoir to Wootton Bassett, as well as for the construction of an additional half million gallon reservoir at Flaxlands. Tenders have just been received for this work.

In June an application was made for permission to go to tender to provide a 6in. diameter main from the bottom of Longleaze to Nore Marsh Road, this being part of a future proposal to feed the Clyffe Pypard and Broad Town area with a separate pipe line to by-pass Wootton Bassett. Approval to this was received, tenders invited and contract entered into. Work has recently commenced. The provision of this pipe line will feed properties previously unsatisfactorily supplied by "common supply" pipes and separately from the supply to the United Dairies.

SEWERAGE

An automatic sewage flow recorder was provided and ancillary works carried out during the year at the Wootton Bassett Sewage Works. The readings will facilitate calculations in connection with the future extension of the plant. The increasing load on the works, particularly the trade waste from the United Dairies, is causing much concern.

At Cricklade where a storm water relief sewer was provided in 1953, conditions are much improved, particularly at the northern end of the town where flooding of premises no longer takes place. The water operated pumping plants, however, are unable to cope with loads, particularly at Calcutt Street, and designs for conversion to electrically operated pumps are in progress.

The detail work necessary for calculations in connection with relief of flooding at the northern end of Purton was proceeded with during the year. An application has recently been made to the Ministry.

Schemes for the unsewered parts of Purton, Chelworth and part of Leigh and Broad Town, are in abeyance.

FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

Certain minerals and chemical compounds are vital for health and body growth. Fluorides are listed amongst these. Very little natural fluoride occurs in any food in appreciable amounts except in tea and fish. Children brought up in areas where the amount of naturally occurring fluoride in the drinking water is in the vicinity of or in excess of 1 part per million, have been found to have much sounder teeth than children brought up in areas where the fluoride level in the drinking water is low.

I append the following table of estimated fluoride levels taken during the year in this district:—

Naturally occurring fluorides						parts per million
Ideal level for sound tooth development in children	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.00
Ashton Keynes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.41
Broad Town	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.14
Clyffe Pypard	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.11

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1957

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1957

April 1958

To: The Chairman and Members of the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-eighth Annual Report on the work carried out in my Department.

HOUSING

Number of New Houses and Flats erected during the year

(a) By the Local Authority .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	58
(b) By Private Enterprise .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38

Inspection of Dwellings during the year

(i) Inspected for housing defects under Public Health Acts. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
(ii) Inspected for housing defects under Housing Acts .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
(iii) Number of dwellings found to be unfit for habitation .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
(iv) Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects fit for habitation .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17

Remedy of defects by Informal Action

Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of Informal Action	7
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Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health and Housing Acts)

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936 and Sections 9, 10, 12 Housing Act, 1957	Nil
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts .....	.....	.....
(i) Number of dwellings in respect of which Formal Notices were served .....	.....	.....	5
(ii) Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of Formal Notices .....	.....	.....
(a) By owners .....	.....	.....	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	.....	.....	Nil

(c) Proceedings under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 and Section 16, Housing Act, 1957		
(i) Number of Demolition Orders made .....	.....	8
(ii) Number of houses demolished .....	.....	5
(iii) Number of Undertakings accepted .....	.....	6
(iv) Number of Undertakings completed .....	.....	5
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 Housing Act, 1936, Section 10 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, Sections 17, 18, 27, Housing Act, 1957.		
(i) Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were made .....	.....	3
(ii) Number of dwellings closed as the result of Closing Orders or Undertakings by owners .....	.....	7
(iii) Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit .....	.....	1

Housing Acts 1936, 1957—Overcrowding

Number of cases of overcrowding discovered in 1957 .....	.....	Nil
Number of cases of overcrowding brought forward from 1956 .....	.....	3
Number of cases of overcrowding abated during the year .....	.....	1
Number of cases of overcrowding on December 31st 1957 .....	.....	2

Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 and Rent Act 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were made under the 1954 Act, but 4 applications were made under the 1957 Act and Certificates issued in respect of 4 houses.

Housing Acts 1949—54

So as to cut down expenditure, no applications for Improvement Grants were entertained by the Council until November, when it was resolved that consideration would be given in making grants to owners in respect of sub-standard houses only.

Applications were received from 16 owners in respect of 22 houses. Of this number approval was given to schemes affecting 19 houses belonging to 13 owners and at the end of the year 3 applications were under consideration.

The cost of the grants for the 19 houses was £5,471 averaging £288 per house. Only 10 of the 19 houses were completed in 1957.

The Council made a 50% grant in every case.

Housing Applications

Parish	No. of Applicants on 31/12/57		Total No. of Applicants		Increase (+)	Decrease (-)	No. of Applicants who were over- crowded 31/12/57
	who are house- holders	who are in rooms	On Dec. 31/57	On Dec. 31/56			
Ashton Keynes	11	—	11	9	+ 2	—	—
Braydon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broad Town	—	—	—	8	— 8	—	—
Clyffe Pypard	9	1	10	11	— 1	—	—
Cricklade	25	11	36	34	+ 2	— 1	—
Latton	—	1	1	—	+ 1	—	—
Leigh	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Lydiard Millicent	19	5	24	21	+ 3	— 1	—
Lydiard Tregoze	3	—	3	4	—	—	—
Lynneham	21	5	26	26	—	—	—
Marston Meysey	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Purton	20	13	33	60	— 27	—	—
Tockenham	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Wootton Bassett	111	42	153	158	— 5	—	—
	223	78	301	335	— 34	—	—

At the end of 1957, there was a decrease of 34 applicants for council houses compared with the figure on December 31st, 1956.

There were decreases in the applicants for houses in 5 parishes, increases in 4, and no change in 5.

The number of applicants for Aged Person's Dwellings (bungalows) increased during the year by 12, the greatest increase being for bungalows in Wootton Bassett parish.

35% of the applicants were sharing accommodation, but this sharing took place in only half of the 14 parishes.

SIZES OF FAMILIES OF APPLICANTS

Man, Wife and						
No Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	Over 5 Children
70	104	68	34	16	7	2
Percentage of the Total						
23.3	34.5	22.6	11.3	5.3	2.3	0.7

APPLICATIONS FOR AGED PERSON'S DWELLINGS

PARISH	NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS ON DECEMBER 31st, 1957			Total Number of applicants on December 31st, 1957
	Married Couples	Widows Widowers and single persons	Total	
Ashton Keynes	—	2	2	2
Cricklade	8	2	10	8
Lydiard Millicent	—	1	1	1
Purton	6	4	10	12
Wootton Bassett	20	16	36	24
	34	25	59	47

The number of applicants is 47 but there are 59 applications as a number of persons applied for dwellings in more than one parish.

Provision of New Houses

During the year 1957, new houses were erected as follows:—

PARISH	Council Houses	Privately Built Houses	Total
Ashton Keynes	2	6	8
Cricklade	4	1	5
Clyffe Pypard	—	2	2
Latton	—	1	1
Lydiard Millicent	—	8	8
Lydiard Tregoze	2	1	3
Lyneham	—	1	1
Purton	12	8	20
Wootton Bassett	38	10	48
	58	38	96

The 4 council houses erected at Cricklade and 22 of those built at Wootton Bassett were 3 bedroom "Woolaway" houses. The 2 erected at Ashton Keynes were 2 bedroom old people's bungalows. The rest of the houses were 3 bedroom traditional, excepting two 2 bedroom houses at Wootton Bassett.

The new council houses at Ashton Keynes and Lydiard Tregoze were drained to existing sewage installations and those in the other parishes were connected to sewers.

The privately built houses in Cricklade, Wootton Bassett and 6 in Purton were drained to existing sewers, all other houses were drained to cesspits.

Number of Houses

The following table shows the total number of houses in parish order and also the number of pre-war and post-war houses owned by the Council:—

PARISH	Total No. of houses	NO. OF COUNCIL HOUSES INCLUDING AGED PERSON'S DWELLINGS			% of houses owned by Local Authority
		Erected pre-war	Erected post-war	Total	
Ashton Keynes	272	17	20	37	13.6
Braydon	17	—	—	—	—
Broad Town	152	16	20	36	23.7
Clyffe Pypard	119	14	2	16	13.4
Cricklade	556	28	143	171	30.7
Latton	134	2	9	11	8.2
Leigh	105	9	30	39	37.1
Lydiard Millicent	283	27	12	39	13.8
Lydiard Tregoze	160	9	10	19	11.9
Lyneham	*624	40	12	52	8.3
Marston Meysey	61	6	6	12	19.7
Purton	856	83	101	184	21.5
Tockenham	37	—	4	4	10.8
Wootton Bassett	1263	84	317	401	31.7
	4639	335	686	1021	22.0

* includes 334 Air Ministry houses

Types of Council Houses in each Parish

PARISH	Tradit- ional	Airey	Reema	Orlit	Unity	Swedish Timber	Wool- away
Ashton Keynes	23	14	—	—	—	—	—
Braydon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broad Town	28	8	—	—	—	—	—
Clyffe Pypard	14	—	—	—	—	2	—
Cricklade	78	12	—	—	47	—	34
Latton	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leigh	9	14	—	—	16	—	—
Lydiard Millicent	39	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lydiard Tregoze	11	—	—	—	—	8	—
Lyneham	42	10	—	—	—	—	—
Marston Meysey	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
Purton	128	16	—	—	40	—	—
Tockenham	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wootton Bassett	215	50	14	44	22	—	56
	614	124	14	44	125	10	90

The above types of council houses give accommodation as follows:

	Traditional Houses		New Traditional Houses		Traditional Aged Persons Dwellings (Bungalows)		New Traditional Aged Persons Dwellings (Bungalows)		
	BEDROOMS		BEDROOMS		BEDROOMS		BEDROOMS		
	4	3	2	3	2	2	1	2	1
Pre-war	9	326	-	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-war	6	225	10	357	42	33	5	8	—
Total	15	551	10	357	42	33	5	8	—

Inspection of Council Houses

Instructions were issued in October for the periodical inspection of all council houses by my department.

During November and December the inspection of 31 council houses was made. The inspections are comprehensive and are similar to the routine inspection of dwelling houses carried out under the Housing Act, 1957.

Details of the houses inspected and the defects found are reported in the monthly report made to the Housing and Town Planning Committee unless the repairs are urgent, in which case the details are passed to the Clerk who instructs the Surveyor to carry out the repairs. The monthly report is considered by the above Committee who agree to the carrying out of all or some of the repairs by the Surveyor.

Visits are also made to council houses as the result of complaints about matters other than structural matters such as annoyance, dirty houses, overgrown gardens, keeping of animals etc.

21 visits were made in connection with these matters.

Temporary Dwellings

The only temporary dwellings in use are the huts at Lydiard Park which are owned by the Swindon Corporation.

On February 14th the Council resolved that no more applications would be entertained for Lydiard Park huts and that the existing applications should be cancelled. Since that date, when huts tenanted by nominees of the Council become vacant, they are handed back to the Swindon Corporation and have been re-let by them.

Number of Lydiard Park huts 120

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

Nuisances

No. of nuisances discovered .....	.....	.....	30
No. of nuisances abated .....	.....	.....	25
No. of inspections made for the purpose .....	.....	.....	128

Verminous Premises

Two houses were treated with DDT/Lindane (Fumite) Generators for flea infestation after the tenants had vacated the premises. The infestation was very slight.

One house was successfully treated with Fumites and DDT spray for the eradication of bugs.

Ten houses, some of them badly infested with cockroaches, were treated with Gammexane powder.

Three council houses infested with earwigs and two council owned buildings infested with wasps were treated with liquid insecticide and DDT. generators.

I am pleased to report that the infestation of the houses with flies at Templars Firs Estate, Wootton Bassett, which has occurred at some period of the year during the last few years, was not evident this year.

In July the houses near Vasterne refuse tip became badly infested with flies. The houses were treated, where requested, with Gammexane.

Number of visits re infested premises 71

Moveable Dwellings

The number of moveable dwellings licensed during the year again increased considerably.

Fifty-one licences to station and use moveable dwellings were issued during the year and there were 48 caravans in the district on December 31st 1957, whose occupiers held licences issued under Section 269 Public Health Act, 1936. In addition a site was licensed to accommodate 40 caravans at Bradenstoke.

Applications for four licences to station and use moveable dwellings were refused, one because there was no water supply within byelaw distance, the second because it would occupy land required for waste disposal from three existing caravans, the third because it was in a dilapidated condition and unfit for habitation and the fourth because the caravan was not available for inspection.

Number of visits re moveable dwellings 89

Drainage and Sewerage

All new houses built in 1957 were served by water closets, whether or not a sewer was available to which the houses could be drained.

Where the new houses could not be connected to a sewer, council houses were drained to small sewage installations and private houses to septic tanks.

There are sewage works at Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett which receive sewage from the houses in the built-up areas of these parishes. The sewage works situate at Lyneham is owned by the Air Ministry and deals with sewage from their 334 houses, the aerodrome and Lyneham old and new schools.

Houses on post-war council house sites in 7 parishes drain to small sewage installations.

Details of house drainage are as follows:—

Number of houses served by W.C.'s and draining to cesspits	788
Number of houses served by pail closets and draining to cesspits	410
Total number of houses draining to cesspits	1198
Total number of houses draining to small sewage installations	115
Total number of houses connected to sewers	2381
Percentage of houses connected to sewers	51.3
Percentage of houses served by W.C.'s and draining to cesspits	17.0
Percentage of houses having pail closets and draining to cesspits	8.8
Percentage of houses drained to small sewage installations	2.5
Percentage of houses drained to sewers, small sewage installations and cesspits	79.6
Number of visits re drainage	59

Public Conveniences

There is only one public convenience in the district and this is situate at Station Road, Wootton Bassett.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Again this year no trouble arose owing to lack of labour and the complement of 2 drivers, 4 loaders and a tipman/spare hand loader, was maintained. Two 'Dennis' 10 cub. yd. refuse vehicles are used for carrying out a weekly collection and each is manned by a driver and 2 loaders on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. On Wednesdays one lorry is served by 2 loaders and the other by 1 loader, and on Thursdays both lorries carry only 1 loader.

Owing to the increasing number of houses in Wootton Bassett parish, the time taken in collecting refuse also increased and reached the stage when the refuse collectors were still working at 9 p.m. Collecting and particularly tipping of refuse during the hours of darkness is both difficult and undesirable. To reduce the area to be covered in one day and hence reduce the time taken in collecting refuse on that day, the collections for Broad Town and Clyffe Pypard parishes which were carried out on Tuesdays, on the same day as the Wootton Bassett collection, were altered to take place on Thursday afternoons. This alteration started on the week ending October 5th. Unfortunately this arrangement further diminished the available time for servicing and repairs to the lorries, as Thursday afternoons were previously 'free' afternoons, so that the only normal time now left for the work is a period of 4 hours on Saturday mornings.

The disposal of refuse from the Broad Town, Clyffe Pypard, Lyneham, Tockenham and Wootton Bassett parishes still created difficulties during the year, as there was no tipping ground owned by the Council in Wootton Bassett. At the beginning of the year refuse had to be taken to Purton tip from these parishes, but in February tipping at Vasterne Sawmills, Wootton Bassett, was recommenced. Tipping continued at this site until July 24th when it was discontinued owing to a recurrence of the fly nuisance. For a short period in September and October, at the request of the owners, refuse was tipped in holes in fields at Lower Hook Farm, Wootton Bassett and Pry Farm, Purton, but owing to the ground becoming soft, causing bogging of the lorries, tipping in these situations had to cease. On November 26th tipping was again carried out at Vasterne Sawmills, Wootton Bassett. Besides the increased cost in the haulage of refuse from the parishes mentioned above, there is also an increase in wages owing to the extra time taken. The total cost of this work is considerable and greatly increases the cost of refuse collection and disposal.

Part of the Cricklade refuse tip which had been completed was covered with soil which had to be purchased, the cost of the soil, haulage and spreading amounted to £75, which was rather expensive for the comparatively small area which was covered.

Although land to be used as a tipping site at Scotlands Farm, Wootton Bassett, was purchased in the year, owing to certain difficulties it was not possible to use it as a refuse tip in 1957.

Insecticides are used on the refuse tips, but in my opinion the real answer to the insect nuisance is the covering of the refuse with soil, plus the use of insecticides. As previously mentioned in my Annual Reports, the soil is not usually obtainable other than by purchase at a prohibitive cost.

Number of visits re public cleansing 703

Salvage

At the beginning of the year the waste paper merchants to whom the Council sold the paper were still unable to accept any owing to over production. Just afterwards I was fortunate in contacting waste paper merchants in the north of England, who, although not offering quite as much per ton, guaranteed to take all waste paper risings. This firm bought the stock of inferior baled paper and have taken all the waste paper we have salvaged during the year.

91 tons of waste paper was sold in 1957 as against 75 tons in 1956, but approximately 15 tons was paper in stock from 1956. The receipts from sales of waste paper increased by only £14, due to the lower selling price.

Two trailers are used for the collection of waste paper, and all the paper is baled in two hand operated baling machines.

An old age pensioner is engaged in paper baling on five days per week. The refuse loaders bale paper on Saturday mornings unless otherwise employed and two loaders help with the baling on Thursday afternoons.

Although the majority of persons put out waste paper for collection satisfactorily, on baling, a considerable amount of rubbish and often decomposing matter has to be sorted from the paper.

Salvageable waste materials sold (Year ended December 31st, 1957)

Waste Material	WEIGHT			RECEIPTS		
	t.	c.	q.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	91	7	1	639	10	9
Scrap iron	6	17	3	26	10	5
Non-ferrous metals		4	1	10	2	8
Textiles	2	18	3	46	2	8
	101	8	—	722	6	6

Number of visits re salvage 59

**Refuse and Salvage—Collection and Disposal Costs
(Financial Year ended 31st March 1957)**

Cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal	£7856	7	8
Receipts—Refuse and salvage	£544	11	11
Cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal to General Rate Fund	£7311	15	9
Net cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal per habitable house (including temporary and Air Ministry houses)	30	8	74
Net cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal—			
—per head of population	8	9	14
—per 1000 population	£438	11	8
Mileage of refuse vehicles			
No. 1 vehicle	10867		
No. 2 vehicle	11408		
Running cost of refuse vehicle per mile			
No. 1 vehicle	1	2	43
No. 2 vehicle	1	2	95
Miles per gallon			
No. 1 vehicle	7.05		
No. 2 vehicle	6.49		

The cost of refuse collection and disposal increased by £1974, a considerable amount. £1207 of this amount was in respect of the purchase of land for use as a tipping site for refuse collected in the Broad Town, Clyffe Pypard, Lyneham, Tockenham and Wootton Bassett parishes. The purchase price has been debited to refuse costs for the year 1957, although the site is estimated to provide for 8 years tipping. Wages account for another £217 in the increased figures, and there is an increase of £100 in tip treatments.

The total mileage covered by the two refuse vehicles increased by 2,600 miles, but the running costs increased by only £20.

Refuse was collected from an additional 86 new houses during the year.

Infectious Diseases and Dysentery

Enquiries in respect of 14 cases of infectious disease were made. A member of one family concerned was engaged in the production of milk and steps were taken immediately to ensure that the milk was subjected to heat treatment before being consumed.

As the result of a notification that a child was in hospital and was suspected of having had Typhoid Fever, or had been in contact

with a Typhoid case, faecal specimens from the other members of the family were submitted for laboratory examination but all were found to be negative.

Five cases of suspected dysentery were investigated but no case was confirmed.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

There are three boiler plants of medium size in the district, one each in the parishes of Latton, Purton and Wootton Bassett. The United Dairies plant at Wootton Bassett is poorly instrumented and at times of peak steam demand in spite of care in stoking a fair amount of dark smoke is produced. Some of the staff on this plant have taken fuel efficiency courses and are keen to obviate a nuisance but on visits during the year it became obvious that the plant will need modernisation to comply with the full provisions of the Clean Air Act. At Purton, Hills Brickworks operates without complaint from surrounding properties and the Lancashire boiler although poorly instrumented, is never on high demand for steam. The management at this Works is well informed on the matter of smoke and grit abatement and introduce improvements on their kilns from time to time. Contact is maintained with the management at the Latton milk factory of the C.W.S. where the plant operates without complaint when the usual fuel supply is available. Some of the younger stokers are to be sent on efficiency courses and the department advises the management on changes in legislation as they arise. Instrumentation of this plant could be improved with advantage.

The new grit arrester installed at a factory in 1956 continues to work satisfactorily and there were no complaints during the year.

All your inspectors attended a course lasting for six months in 1956/7 at Bristol University, at their own expense. This course was invaluable for Smoke Inspectors and your two Additional Inspectors sat the examination held by the Royal Society of Health for Smoke Inspectors, in November last and were successful.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 to 1954

No. of Milk Distributors on the Register	.....	16
No. of Distributors Dairies on the Register	.....	9
No. of inspections made under the Regulations	.....	26

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949 to 1954

No. of "Tuberculin Tested" dealer's licences	.....	15
No. of Supplementary "Tuberculin Tested" dealers licences	.....	6

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised)

Milk Regulations 1949 to 1953

No. of "Pasteurised" dealers licences	.....	.....	14
No. of Supplementary "Pasteurised" dealers licences	.....	.....	6
No. of "Sterilised" dealers licences	.....	.....	2
No. of Supplementary "Sterilised" dealers licences	.....	.....	1

Authorisation to add the words "Channel Islands" was given in respect of 4 "Pasteurised" dealers licences and 1 Supplementary "Tuberculin Tested" dealers licence.

Milk Sampling

This district was included in a specified area by the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) Order 1957, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1957, and from that date only milk to which a special designation had been applied could be retailed in the area.

This has contributed towards the further decrease which has taken place in the number of persons retailing raw milk. Several farmers who previously produced and sold undesignated milk are now sending their supplies for pasteurisation and in turn are buying back and retailing pasteurised milk. No doubt as soon as they are able to produce "T.T." milk they will once again become producer/retailers.

In addition to the routine tests for keeping quality and for the presence of Tubercle bacilli samples were also submitted for examination for *Brucella Abortus* by means of the Ring Test. Five samples were submitted for this test alone and a number of samples sent in for Methylene Blue tests and biological examination were also tested. Positive results were obtained from milk from two herds. In the case of one herd only one positive reading was obtained subsequent results being negative. With the other herd in addition to positive ring tests *B. Abortus* was also recovered after a guinea pig inoculation. Suspicion was centred upon one cow and ring tests on milk from this animal were positive. The farmer is now excluding this milk from his supply and the whole herd has been inoculated against *B. Abortus*. The results of further biological tests are awaited.

A neighbouring Authority suspected milk sold in their area and produced in this district of causing illness. The sample they submitted for examination was found to contain *Staphylococcus aureus*. Following receipt of this report extensive enquiries were made at the producer's premises and a number of samples were submitted for examination. It was eventually found that the *Staphylococcus* was not originating from persons handling the milk, but from the animals themselves. A number of cows in the herd

were affected with chapped teats and samples from these animals showed that they were responsible for the presence of *Staphylococcus Aureus* which disappeared when the teats healed.

All pasteurised milk retailed in this district is adequately sampled by the Public Health Inspector of the County in which it is produced.

The percentage of failures in Methylene Blue tests (7% T.T. and 20% Non-designated) is approximately the same as last year, but I am pleased to report that again this year all samples were free from tuberculosis.

Number of Milk Samples taken

	Designated	Non-designated	Pasteurised
For Methylene Blue tests only	46	2	—
For Methylene Blue plus biological tests	42	3	—
Test for <i>Brucella Abortus</i> only	5	—	—
Special examination only	3	—	—
	96	5	—

Results of Milk Sampling

	DESIGNATED (T.T.)		NON-DESIGNATED	
	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
	82 (93%)	6 (7%)	4 (80%)	1 (20%)
Methylene Blue test				
Biological test	42 (100%)	—	3 (100%)	—

Sampling—*Brucella Abortus*

NO. OF SAMPLES SUBMITTED (all T.T. milk)	RING TEST RESULT			BIOLOGICAL RESULT	
	Negative	Doubtful	Positive	Neg.	Pos.
36	25	2	9	1	1

Ice Cream

The total number of premises registered for the sale and storage of ice cream has reached 37 and of this total only one sells his own product, the remainder selling the pre-packed ice cream manufactured by large wholesale distributors. No premises are registered until the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act are satisfied. Throughout the year the district is visited almost daily by travelling vans from the depots of large pre-packed brand manufacturers, but the small itinerant vendor has disappeared. The sole producer of ice cream complied with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations 1947-52.

All samples taken this year were placed in the top two grades and B. Coli was absent. All were Grade 1 except one. These results are an improvement on last year's figures and I consider them to be very satisfactory.

Manufacturer	PROVISIONAL GRADING				
	1	2	3	4	5
A	4	—	—	—	—
Percentage	(100%)	—	—	—	—
B	4	—	—	—	—
Percentage	(100%)	—	—	—	—
C	3	1	—	—	—
Percentage	(75%)	(25%)	—	—	—
D	4	—	—	—	—
Percentage	(100%)	—	—	—	—
E	1	—	—	—	—
Percentage	(100%)	—	—	—	—
Total	16	1	—	—	—
Percentages	(94%)	(6%)	—	—	—

Meat

There are 8 slaughterhouses in the district but no slaughtering took place at one premise during the year.

The lair at one slaughterhouse was rebuilt and provided with new drainage. A new W.C. urinal and lavatory basin were also provided and the new drainage from the sanitary block was coupled with the lair drainage and carried to a new cesspit. At this premise

a request to protect the meat carried on travelling rails between the slaughterhall and cooling house by roofing over the rails, was complied with.

You will notice that 34,367 animals were killed in 1957. Every carcase and the organs of every animal were inspected, but to accomplish this, your inspectors were engaged on the work during normal working hours on five days in the week, and on every Sunday, three and four evenings per week and on some Bank holidays.

The great majority of the animals slaughtered were calves and these were obtained from markets covering a very wide area.

Most of the calf carcases and organs are taken to London for sale at Smithfield Market.

Other than cows, there was a slight reduction in the percentage of the number of animals affected with disease in one form or another. The slight increase in the percentage of disease found in cows was probably due to the fact that 38% more cows were killed than in 1956.

Animals killed and Carcasses examined

	CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS	COWS	CALVES	PIGS	SHEEP	GOATS	TOTAL
No. of animals killed	363	136	30915	467	2483	3	34367
No. of carcases examined	363	136	30915	467	2483	3	34367

No of visits to slaughterhouses and butchers shops 1402

Condemned Meat

	CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS	COWS	CALVES	PIGS	SHEEP	GOATS	TOTAL
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI							
Whole carcases	3	1	47	3	9	—	63
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	63	51	598	58	107	1	878
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	18.2	38.2	2.1	13.1	4.7	33.3	2.7

	CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS	COWS	CALVES	PIGS	SHEEP	GOATS	TOTAL
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY							
Whole carcases	2	—	11	—	—	—	13
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	17	25	30	13	—	—	85
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.2	18.4	0.1	2.8	—	—	0.3
CYSTICERCOSIS							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
CONDEMNED FOR ALL DISEASES							
Whole carcases	5	1	58	3	9	—	76
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	80	76	628	71	107	1	963
Total number of animals affected with disease	85	77	686	74	116	1	1039
Percentage of the number inspected which were affected with disease	23.4	56.6	2.2	15.8	4.7	33.3	3.0

Weights of Condemned Meat

	CONDEMNED IN SLAUGHTERHOUSES				CONDEMNED IN SHOPS			
	T.	c.	q.	lbs.	T.	c.	q.	lbs.
Beef	1	17	—	18				
Veal	1	6	3	18				
Pork and Bacon	3	—	24					
Mutton and Lamb	2	3	19					
Offal	1	9	3	25				
	5	—	—	20				
					1	—	16	

	CONDEMNED FOR TUBERCULOSIS				CONDEMNED FOR DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS			
	T.	c.	q.	lbs.	T.	c.	q.	lbs.
Beef	1	2	1	17		15	3	17
Veal		7	3	12		19	—	6
Pork and Bacon			3	22		2	1	2
Mutton and Lamb						2	3	19
Offal	4	2	2		1	5	1	23
	1	15	2	25		3	5	11
Percentage of the total of condemned meat	35.3				64.7			

Tuberculosis in Calves

The incidence of tuberculosis in calves was the same as last year, but I am pleased to report that the number of calves condemned for congenital tuberculosis continues to fall.

The under-mentioned table which gives details over a period of years, shows the increase in the number of calves slaughtered and the very pleasing downward trend of the incidence of tuberculosis. Over a period of 17 years careful records have been kept and prove that in 1957 the percentage of calves affected with tuberculosis was approximately only one sixth of the percentage affected in 1940.

YEAR	NUMBER OF CALVES KILLED	NUMBER OF TUBER- CULAR CALVES	PERCENTAGE OF CALVES AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS
1940	14095	102	0.72
1942	15190	104	0.68
1945	16985	101	0.60
1948	20184	91	0.45
1951	21929	64	0.29
1954	20972	31	0.15
1957	34367	41	0.13

Where details are available, information re calves condemned for congenital tuberculosis are passed to the Ministry's Veterinary Surgeon of the area in which the sale of the calf took place, for his investigation as to the condition of the dam. Less than half of the calves found to be affected are traced.

Number of calf carcases condemned for congenital tuberculosis	11
Number of calves untraceable by Veterinary Officer	3
Number of calves bearing no market ticket	3
Number of dams sold before enquiry and probably slaughtered	1
Number of dams found to be affected with tuberculosis	4

Slaughter of Animals Act

The number of licensed slaughtermen in the district remained the same as in 1956 — viz., 19.

Other Foods

The amount of unsound food surrendered by shopkeepers was the smallest for many years and is detailed as follows:—

Cured Ham	6lbs.
Dutch Tongue	1 tin (6lbs.).
Corned Beef	1 tin (6lbs.).
Sliced Peaches	2 tins (1lb. 13ozs.).

The examination of very large consignments of tins of condensed milk by a local milk factory was carried out in the early part of the year. These tins were old stock in possession of the Ministry of Food and were sent for salvaging. A considerable quantity of the tinned milk was sound and was used for manufacturing purposes, but 234,792 tins of milk were condemned and used for animal feeding purposes.

Food Premises

45 premises in the district are registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. These premises are used for:—

Manufacture and/or sale of ice cream	37
Manufacture and sale of sausages, pickled, pressed or preserved meat	5
Purpose of fish frying	3
—	—

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955

The various types of food premises are as follows:—

Bakers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Butchers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Cafes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Cafes cum Grocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Cafes cum Confectioners	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Canteens	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Confectioners	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Egg Grading Depot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Factories dealing with food products	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Fishmongers cum Grocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Fishmongers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Greengrocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Grocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	55 (1)
Halls, Social Centres etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Institutions, Homes, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Licensed Premises (including Clubs)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	51
Manufacture of chocolate (domestic)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Off licence premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
School Kitchens	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Schools where meals are taken	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13 (2)
Youth Hostel	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
						190

(1) includes 4 premises where other food businesses are carried on

(2) includes 3 schools where meals are taken in nearby hall.

With a few exceptions the occupiers of food premises are readily co-operating in carrying out the works required for their premises to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations. A considerable amount of work was completed during the year, the details being as follows:—

Bakehouses

Work was completed at four premises, a wash-hand basin provided with a constant supply of hot and cold water being provided in each case. At two premises new bin tops were provided, whilst at another a concrete floor was laid to replace the existing defective board floor.

Butchers

One lock-up butchers shop was provided with a sink and wash-hand basin each with a constant supply of hot and cold water. A cesspit was provided and drains laid to take the wastes from these fittings. Some new impervious working surfaces were provided and re-decoration carried out.

Cafes

There are now 7 cafes in the district, one less than last year, and these are generally satisfactory. At five of them the domestic kitchen is used for the preparation of food and consequently accommodation is limited. This arrangement is very unsatisfactory but unfortunately cannot be remedied.

One cafe was found to be in a very unsatisfactory condition and as the occupier made no attempt to carry out the work requested of him, the matter was reported to my Council who authorised legal proceedings to be taken if the work was not completed within a specified period. As a result of this the cafe was closed for several weeks while the work was undertaken. A wash-hand basin together with a constant hot and cold water supply was provided, while another existing wash-hand basin was provided with a constant hot water supply. Some structural repairs were carried out and the premises, while still requiring frequent observation by this Department, have improved.

Another premise is still not up to the required standard but works of improvement involving the provision of drainage and new toilets are proceeding.

Additional hand washing facilities were provided at three other premises.

At another cafe, where the bathroom containing the toilet communicated directly with the kitchen, a partition and sliding door was constructed and additional ventilation provided so that the bathroom now forms an intervening ventilated space between toilet and kitchen.

Canteen

Some smooth impervious working surfaces were provided at one canteen.

Confectioners

Two confectioners shops were provided with wash-hand basins, together with constant supplies of hot and cold water, one was also provided with a sink and hot and cold water and at the other a supply of hot water was laid to the existing sink.

At two other premises some working surfaces were renewed.

Factories dealing with food products

Included in this category are two milk factories which produce condensed and powdered milk and one egg packing depot. In addition, the bottling of orange juice is carried out at one of the milk factories. A wash-hand basin together with a constant supply of hot and cold water was provided in the orange juice bottling room.

Fishmongers

A fishmongers shop, which is also registered for the purpose of fish frying, was provided with a concrete floor to replace the existing defective board floor and a constant supply of hot water was provided to the wash-hand basin.

Grocers

As a result of a request made by this department for works to be carried out to secure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, several owners of food premises decided to carry out extensive alterations and improvements.

Work was completed at 22 premises as follows:—

Structural alterations and repair	11
Provision of additional wash-hand basins, together with constant supplies of hot and cold water	12
Provision of additional sinks, together with constant supplies of hot and cold water	4
Wash-hand basin moved to a more convenient position	2
Constant supply of hot water provided to existing sink.....	5
Cleansing and re-decoration	2
Provision of intervening space between toilet and food room	2
Provision of immersion heater to supplement back boiler method of water heating	1
New working surfaces	7

Halls, Social Centres, etc.

Work was completed, except for a few small items, at one village hall. Here alterations were carried out to enable the toilets, fuel store, etc. to be entered other than by passing through the kitchen. The kitchen was re-decorated and a wash-hand basin together with a constant supply of hot and cold water provided. Plans have been approved for the provision of the drainage systems necessary to take the sink and washhand basin waste at several premises. Efforts are being made to acquire land for drainage purposes (a major difficulty with this class of property) in several more cases. This department endeavours, where possible, to have a food preparing room provided which is separate from the main body of the hall.

Institutions, Homes, etc.

One aged persons home is still not entirely satisfactory. It is kept in a very clean condition but hand washing facilities are inadequate and some repairs and structural alterations are required.

Licensed Premises

Work was completed at 15 premises (including 4 clubs) as follows:—

Provision of a constant supply of hot water to the bar sink	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Provision of a constant supply of cold water to the bar sink	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Provision of a constant supply of hot water for hand washing purposes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Replacement of unsatisfactory sinks	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Provision of new working surfaces	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Cleansing of premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2

At one public house water was heated by an independent boiler situated on the first floor, an arrangement which made it very inconvenient for the landlord to provide the required constant supply of hot water. The brewery concerned acted on the recommendation of this Department and installed an immersion heater.

In several of the public houses the only water supply available was that serving the sink used for glass washing, the domestic sink being only provided with a cold water supply. Where this domestic sink was in a position which made it suitable for hand washing purposes, a brewery company has been asked to provide it with a constant hot water supply.

More works of improvement would undoubtedly have been carried out but for the delay which was caused due to the transference of premises which took place between two brewery companies.

Schemes of improvement are in hand for several premises.

Schools

(a) County Council Schools

An additional wash-hand basin was provided at the Central Kitchen, Wootton Bassett.

(b) Private Schools.

The food rooms at one private school were decorated throughout and adequate facilities for the washing of utensils provided by the installation of a dish washing machine.

Films on Food Hygiene

In January last year I was approached by a firm marketing sterilising and detergent agents, offering to exhibit films dealing with food hygiene. As I was assured that there would be the minimum of advertising it was agreed that I would make arrangements for showing the films at the Recreation Hut, Manor House,

Wootton Bassett on May 9th. Before that date I contacted the South Western Gas Board, having heard that they had an interesting film touching on food hygiene, and they agreed to show this.

A circular letter was sent to all food handlers and producers in the district inviting them to attend the film exhibition and asking them to let me know if they intended to be present. The replies were very gratifying.

Posters and information were displayed in the room. All the seating accommodation was taken up. The Chairman of the Council acted as chairman of the meeting. After the films were shown, the exhibitors gave short talks and questions were answered by the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspectors. This exhibition was very successful and I am sure that great assistance was given in the furtherance of food hygiene.

Food Poisoning

15 notifications of suspected food poisoning were received. The causative organism, *Salmonella Typhi-Murium*, was isolated in four cases.

Twenty-nine faecal specimens and 10 specimens of food were submitted to the Area Pathological laboratory for examination in connection with suspected food poisoning notifications.

No. of visits re Food Poisoning 45

SHOPS ACT 1950

The provisions of this Act which are administered by this Local Authority are those relating to sanitary accommodation, temperature and ventilation. During the year one lock-up shop was provided with a W.C.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1948

Premises registered under the Factories Acts are:—

Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Brickworks	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Builders and carpenters	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Building operations	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Condensed and evaporated milk manufactory	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Coffin board makers	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Dental manufactory	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Dried milk manufactory	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Egg grading depot	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Engineering shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Furniture maker and repairer	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

Gas works .....	.....	.....	.....	2
Glove works .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Grass Drying plants .....	.....	.....	.....	3
Gravel pits .....	.....	.....	.....	2
Joinery works .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Laundries .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Local Authority workshop .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Motor and cycle repair shops .....	.....	.....	.....	16
Potteries .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Rope works .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Saw mills .....	.....	.....	.....	2
Sausage makers .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Waterworks .....	.....	.....	.....	2
				—
				65
				—

Inspections

(i) Factories where Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities:—

No. on register .....	.....	.....	.....	8
No. of inspections .....	.....	.....	.....	1
No. of written notices .....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
No. of occupiers prosecuted .....	.....	.....	.....	Nil

(ii) Factories and other Premises not included in (i) on which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority:—

No. on register .....	.....	.....	.....	54
No. of inspections .....	.....	.....	.....	39
No. of written notices .....	.....	.....	.....	5
No. of occupiers prosecuted .....	.....	.....	.....	Nil

Defects

Cases in which defects were found:—

	Found	Remedied
Insufficient sanitary convenience	1	1
Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences	4	4

These defects are enumerated as follows — At a new gravel pit no sanitary convenience had been provided and at another gravel pit the convenience was in disrepair. At one garage the W.C. was in a dirty state and the water had been disconnected from the flushing cistern. Dirty conditions were found at the pail closets serving a sawmills and a garage.

All these defects were remedied by the erection of a new pail closet and by carrying out repairs and cleansing.

Outworkers

Outworkers are employed at only one factory in the district. The Company employ 26 outworkers in making industrial gloves, 12 of whom reside outside the district and the remaining 14 live in the following parishes:—

Ashton Keynes	.....	.....	.....	5
Cricklade	.....	.....	.....	8
Leigh	.....	.....	.....	1

In addition firms whose premises are not situate in the district, employ 5 outworkers residing in the district. One is employed in glove making and the others in the making of wearing apparel.

THE DISEASES of ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957

Powers and duties under this Order were delegated to the Council by the County Council and inspections to ascertain whether there was compliance with the Order were carried out at all premises where it was known that they were likely to come within the requirements of the Order.

At all premises but one the conditions were satisfactory and at this one premise the occupier was awaiting a builder to erect a boiling plant.

No. of licences issued under the Order	.....	11
No. of visits made	.....	19

WATER SUPPLIES

The consumption of water throughout the district still showed a steady increase and this continued to give rise to anxiety owing to insufficient storage capacity and to the fact that the rising main to Hook reservoir was carrying the maximum amount of water which could be pumped through this main.

There were 3 unsatisfactory and 1 suspicious results of bacteriological examinations of public water supplies. These results were due to fluctuation in the yield of water resulting in under chlorination.

Of the 7 unsatisfactory samples taken from private supplies, 3 were taken at different times from the same supply and there are no public water mains available to serve the properties. One was found satisfactory on a check sample. Two houses cannot be connected owing to the expense and one house was connected to the main.

None of the public supplies have plumbo-solvent action.

Sources

Water for public supplies is obtained from four sources situate at Ashton Keynes, Broad Town, Clyffe Pypard and Thornhill. Two boreholes at Ashton Keynes supply the greatest quantity of water. An adit at Clyffe Pypard provides a much less quantity. Next comes the yield from the Broad Town well, and last the Thornhill supply obtained from a well. The amount of water provided by Thornhill well is quite small.

A private supply provides water to a small number of houses at Clyffe Pypard.

Storage

Provisions made for the storage of water are as follows:—

	Gallons
Hook reservoir	500,000
Cricklade reservoir	60,000
Wootton Bassett elevated tank	50,000
Clyffe Pypard underground tank	35,000
Ashton Keynes elevated tank	20,000
Purton (Pavenhill) elevated tank	20,000
Purton (The Heading) underground tank	17,000
Bradenstoke elevated tank	12,000
Broad Town underground tank	10,000
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	724,000

Distribution

From Ashton Keynes boreholes water is pumped to the Hook and Cricklade reservoirs and to the Ashton Keynes tank. Water gravitates from the Hook reservoir to feed the tanks at Purton, Wootton Bassett and an elevated tank at Lyneham Aerodrome. A booster pump is installed on the water main to Lyneham. Water is pumped from the R.A.F. storage tank to the elevated tank at Bradenstoke. The Ashton Keynes tank and also premises on the line of the rising main to Hook reservoir can be fed by gravity from this reservoir. The distributing mains can be fed by gravity from all storage tanks and reservoirs.

Water Sampling

Number of water samples taken:—

Public supplies	49
Private supplies	23
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Results of Water Analysis

	BACTERIOLOGICAL				CHEMICAL	
	Unsatisfactory	Suspicious	Satisfactory	Excellent	Fit for drinking purposes	Unfit for drinking purposes
Taken from public supplies at:-						
Ashton Keynes	—	—	1	6	1	—
Broad Town	1	—	—	11	1	—
Clyffe Pypard	1	1	2	12	1	—
Thornhill	1	—	1	9	—	—
	3	1	4	38	3	—
Taken from private supplies in the parishes of:-						
Broad Town	—	1	—	—		
Clyffe Pypard	3	1	—	—		
Latton	—	—	—	4		
Lydiard Tregoze	1	—	1	—		
Purton	2	2	—	—		
Wootton Bassett	1	—	—	—		
	7	4	1	4		
Samples of water used for purposes other than drinking:-						
Pool at Latton used for swimming	5					
Ditches at Latton from which watercress can be gathered (not watercress beds)	2					
	7					

	PUBLIC SUPPLIES CHEMICAL ANALYSIS		
	Ashton Keynes (Reaction pH7.1)	Broad Town (Reaction pH7.1)	Clyffe Pypard (Reaction pH7.7)
	parts per million		
Free carbon dioxide Co ₂	12	28	Less than 5
Ammonia (as N)			
Free	Less than .005	Less than .005	Less than .005
Albuminoid	Less than .005	Less than .005	Less than .005
Chlorine (as Chlorides)	16	13	13.5
equivalent to Sodium Chloride			
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs.)	26.5 0.16	21.5 0.29	22 0.18
Nitrite	Absent	Absent	Absent
Nitrate	2.1	2.5	1.8
Total solids	395	480	355
Loss on ignition	55	25	15
Appearance on ignition	Slight darkening	Very slight charring	Slight charring
Hardness: Temporary	238	280	228
Permanent	43	56	31
Lead	281	336	259
Copper	Less than 0.1	Less than 0.1	Less than 0.1
Fluoride (F)	Less than 0.1	Less than 0.1	Less than 0.1
Appearance	0.41 Clear and colourless. No sediment	0.14 Clear, colour- less, slight sediment of calcium crystals with a little sand	0.11 Clear and colourless. A few black particles apparently bituminous material. A few fibres and grains

Analyst's remarks:— "All three samples have maintained their high quality, the only real difference being that the nitrates are higher than they have been on recent samples. We have some analyses made in 1948 when they were similarly high, and the present figures are not high enough to have any real significance, especially as there is no corresponding increase in chloride.

There is no significant change in fluoride content in any of the three."

Houses and Population supplied from Public Water Mains

PARISH	WATER SUPPLIED DIRECT TO HOUSES (NOT INCLUDING TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)		WATER SUPPLIED BY MEANS OF A STANDPIPE (NOT INCLUDING TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)	
	No. of houses	Estimated population	No. of houses	Estimated population
Ashton Keynes	243	852		
Braydon	15	53		
Broad Town	115	403		
Clyffe Pypard	74	259		
Cricklade	537	1883		
Latton	76	267		
Leigh	101	354		
Lydiard Millicent	274	961		
Lydiard Tregoze	108	379		
Lyneham	572	2006		
Marston Meysey	44	154		
Purton	804	2820		
Tockenham	41	144		
Wootton Bassett	1229	4310	11	39
	4233	14845	11	39

Houses and Population supplied from Private Water Mains

PARISH	WATER SUPPLIED DIRECT TO HOUSES (NOT INCLUDING TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)		WATER SUPPLIED BY MEANS OF A STANDPIPE (NOT INCLUDING TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)	
	No. of houses	Estimated population	No. of houses	Estimated population
Broad Town	5	18	—	—
Clyffe Pypard	24	84	—	—
	29	102	—	—

Temporary Dwellings and Population supplied from Public Water Mains

PARISH	WATER SUPPLIED DIRECT TO TEMPORARY DWELLINGS		WATER SUPPLIED BY MEANS OF A STANDPIPE ON THE SITE	
	No. of temporary dwellings	Estimated population	No. of temporary dwellings	Estimated population
Lydiard Tregoze	120	421	—	—

Totals, Percentages, etc., re Water Supplies to Dwellings

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS

(i) Into or on to premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	4233
(ii) By means of a standpipe	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
					4244

ESTIMATED POPULATION SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS (INCLUDING POPULATION OF TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)

(i) Into or on to premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	15266
(ii) By means of a standpipe	.....	.....	.....	.....	39
					15305

Total number of **houses** supplied from water mains (public and private) 4273

Total estimated **population**, including population of temporary dwellings supplied from water mains (public and private) 15407

Percentage of **houses** supplied from **public** water mains 91.49

Percentage of **houses** supplied from **private** water mains 0.62

Percentage of **houses** supplied from **water mains** 93.69

Percentage of **estimated population** supplied from **public** water mains 91.70

Percentage of **estimated population** supplied from **private** water mains 0.06

Percentage of **estimated population** supplied from **water mains** 92.31

Number of visits re water supplies:—

 Public supplies 47

 Private supplies 20

THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACTS 1949

A slightly greater number of premises were infested with rats than last year, the increase being in agricultural premises.

There was an increase in the number of premises infested with mice, chiefly concerning private and business premises and the increase in the premises infested with rats, mainly affected agricultural premises.

The position regarding rat infestation of refuse tips remains very satisfactory. On a few occasions during the year rats appeared to move in overnight, but the trouble was eradicated within a short time.

I am pleased to report that again this year the test baiting of sewers gave excellent results, the sewers in Purton and Wootton Bassett being free from rats and the Cricklade sewers had only a small number of infested pockets.

Wafarin is used in the disinfection of premises but Zinc Phosphide and Arsenious Oxide are used in sewer treatments.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority	Dwelling House	Business Premises	Agricultural	Total
No. of properties inspected					
(a) after notification		34	14	8	56
(b) survey	12	855	174	174	1215
(c) otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)		16	9	19	44
Total properties inspected	12	905	197	201	1315
No. of properties infested by rats	9	104	17	32	162
mice	—	40	11	2	53
% of the properties inspected which were infested by — rats	75.0	11.5	8.6	15.9	12.3
mice	—	4.4	5.6	1.0	4.0
No. of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	9	144	28	34	215
Total no. of treatments (including re-treatments carried out)	14	168	31	41	254

Number of visits re infestation by rats and mice 2552

	Percentage of the properties inspected which were infested				
	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
	Rats	28	19	11	11
Mice	3	2	1	2	4

PETROLEUM ACT AND REGULATIONS

No. of licences issued to store petroleum .....	.....	66
No. of licences issued to store petroleum and carbide		1
No. of licences issued to store carbide .....	.....	1
No. of inspections of installations and store places .....	.....	10

The number of licences issued to store petroleum was the same as last year, but there was one less person storing petroleum and carbide.

The conditions for the storing of petroleum were revised in October.

MISCELLANEOUS VISITS

Visits were made to 37 premises as the result of unspecified complaints which were found to have no concern either of the Council or my Department. These complaints, when they are no concern of the Council, cause considerable waste of time.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

No action was needed during the year.

DEALERS IN OLD METALS AND MARINE STORE DEALERS

There are 9 registered dealers in old metals at 10 premises situate as follows:—

Clyffe Pypard .....	.....	1
Cricklade .....	.....	1
Tockenham .....	.....	1
Lydiard Tregoze .....	.....	1
Wootton Bassett .....	.....	6

**TABULAR SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE
DURING THE YEAR**

Water Supplies—Public	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
,, ,, —Private	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Drainage	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59
Piggeries	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Temporary Dwellings	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Moveable Dwellings	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	89
Places of Entertainment	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Factories	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Council house visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
Licensed premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	68
Refuse collection	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	518
Refuse disposal	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	185
Damage by Pests Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2552
River pollution	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Schools	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Clean Air Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Waste Foods Order	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Miscellaneous visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37
Nuisances	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	128
Salvage	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59
Swimming pool	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Housing—Public Health Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	63
Housing Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	68
Council house inspection	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31
Miscellaneous housing visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	325
Overcrowding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Verminous premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	71
Rent Act 1957	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Infectious diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Meat inspection	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1402
Dysentery	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Butchers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12

Food Hygiene Regulations:—

Butchers .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Clubs .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Old People's Homes .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Canteens .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Confectioners .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Fishmongers .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Children's Homes .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Food preparing premises .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Grocers .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	98
Greengrocers .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Ice cream premises .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
School kitchens .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
School halls .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Cafes .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
Parish halls .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Youth hostels .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Dairies .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
Milk sampling .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	99
Miscellaneous food visits .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Food poisoning .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45
Petroleum Act .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
							6264

